

WAL.

January 15, 1923.

*Mr. Ball: This I think should be quoted in the herring report.*  
MSS

Memorandum for Dr. Moore:

There are no authoritative data bearing out the quantity and quality of herring said to occur many places along the Alaska coast that are not now being commercially fished. The tendency of the present packers engaged has been to locate in proved localities which in most instances, resulted in congestion. Scarcely anything in the way of prospecting for new fishing grounds has been done.

In Southeastern Alaska the fish are of extremely good quality but very low in the percentage of salable sizes. Herring are plentiful and distributed practically throughout the whole section. Saltery sites are to be had without great difficulty; the district has also the advantage of Alaska's cheapest freight rates. The purse seine is the principal appliance used. Herring have been packed in three localities in Southwestern Alaska. The principal producer among these is Latouche, which is probably already overcrowded. Fish are fairly abundant, but at times the fishing is concentrated in the narrow passes at the entrance to Prince William Sound, and operations greatly handicapped by the interference of seine boats with one another. The best locations for erecting salteries, adjacent to Latouche, have been taken. The quality of herring caught entirely by purse seines, in that vicinity is very good.

A good body of milt and roe herring are to be had in the fall of the year at Halibut Cove, Cook Inlet, where all of the fishing is done with set-nets. The low price fish of that quality fetch on the market precludes packing them at the present time. A great many herring salteries stand there not in use. A number of plants are located in the Kodiak Island section, but it has not as yet been proved to support the quantity of herring claimed for it. The past season, 1922, was a failure. Fish taken there are of good size and quality and are caught with purse seines. *Golovin*

Golovin Bay in the Bering Sea has a run of very good herring, but its great distance from the selling market and general conditions do not seem to warrant a development of the fishery.

There are many reports about the occurrence of herring at numerous places in Alaska, particularly along the Alaska Peninsula, however, no one is justified, without first prospecting, in the establishing of a plant on the strength of these rumors.

W.P. STUDEERT.